

say how the standard of requirements shall be fixed. Let us not worry about the matter unduly; let us wait and see what needs must be done when the point has been finally decided.

At the coming session of the legislature, a bill appropriating sufficient money for the establishment

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM.

of a State Sanatorium for the Treatment of Curable Cases of Tuberculosis, is to be introduced. Our readers will doubtless recall that, under the auspices of the California Club, of San Francisco, and with the endorsement of the Committee on Tuberculosis of the State Society, a similar measure was passed by the legislature in 1905, but was vetoed by the Governor. We have not seen a copy of the bill it is intended to introduce at the coming session, but it is probably similar to the one of two years ago. It is in every way to be commended. To physicians, it seems hardly necessary to call attention to the great economic value of proper care and treatment of those so unfortunate as to be the victims of this disease. Statistics gathered by our German confreres show that, if taken in the early stages, and if these hopeful victims are subjected to the outdoor sanatorium treatment, only very few succumb to the disease. In Germany, we understand, the life insurance companies have recognized the truth of these facts and have established proper sanatoria for the treatment of those of their insured who may become tuberculous, finding it cheaper to properly care for them and cure them, than to pay death benefits. And surely, if any State needs such an institution it is California, whose chiefest city enjoys the proud distinction of having the highest death rate from tuberculosis of any in the land. Let us by all means do everything in our power to aid the California Club in its efforts to secure the establishment of a State Sanatorium.

It is indeed difficult to arrive at a satisfactory determination of the editorial and business attitude of this peculiar medical publication, *American Medicine*. It was

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founded with the ostensible purpose of fighting nostrum abuses and freeing a trammelled and chained profession. Yet its advertising pages became so open to criticism, and the criticism was so marked and pronounced, that something had to be done. About a year ago it was stated that it could not afford to continue as a weekly publication and refuse some of the questionable advertising from which it derived a goodly portion of its income. At a meeting of stockholders, it was decided to "be decent," to throw out this money with the scarlet tint, and to make the publication a monthly, with clean advertising pages. The great mass of the progressive element in the profession, many of them stockholders in *American Medicine*, have become keenly alive to the very grave conditions existing in the profitable business of supplying sanguine physicians with cheap (?) remedies of unknown or worthless composition. This much-to-be-desired awakening has

come through the inestimable services of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the A. M. A. The reports of this Council, as published in the *Journal A. M. A.* from time to time, have furnished an object lesson of the fact that it was high time such an energetic cleaning up was begun. Naturally, the questionable interests being injured by this truth-telling would like redress and would in turn try to attack or to injure the Association and especially its Council. These attacks have been many and some of them have been noted in our pages. We did not, however, expect ever to see *American Medicine* organized to fight the enemies of true medicine, lining up with the enemy, taking its place with the defenders of nostrums, and casting nasty insinuations against the Association, its *Journal* and its Council. This is indeed a bitter pill to swallow. And it is not enough that we are given this unpleasant dose to take; there is yet a worse. Casual inspection of the advertising pages of the very number of *American Medicine* in which the *Journal of the A. M. A.* is referred to as "yellow" and taken to task for printing the illuminating reports of the Council, shows that the wishes of the stockholders have been ignored. If there is any difference in the character of the advertising formerly condemned by the stockholders and that in the issue for October, 1906, it is not apparent. Here we find Gray's tonic; Labordine; Viburnum compound; vapo-cresolene; anasarcine (no longer advertised as "a cure for dropsy," however); antiphlogistine; papayans Bell (this is apparently the same concern that formerly put out an acetanilide mixture under the false claim that it was a definite chemical under the name salacetine, made into tablets called "sal-codeia, Bell"); Tyree's powder (recently shown by the Council to have been travelling under a disguised formula—to put it mildly); resinol (widely advertised to the general public); and last, but not least, our old friend "California fig syrup," which to the laity is held out as a preparation of figs, and to medical men as a preparation of senna.

Other journals have attacked the Association, its *Journal* and the Council on Pharmacy; other journals will continue to do so, and in

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other ways. Be assured that the interests opposing this present movement to try and secure simple honesty in the making and marketing of remedies intended for physicians' use, are very numerous and very rich and, moreover, are in the habit of doing their work in "ways that are dark"; indeed, they naturally shun the light. For the first time in the history of this country, a considerable number of physicians have gotten together in the formation of medical societies and in supporting the American Medical Association. For the first time in our history it is possible for any considerable number of us to know what is being done and to participate in any particular kind of work or undertaking. So long as that condition remains, so long as the A. M. A. and our component societies remain strong and active, the members taking an intelligent in-

terest in what is going on for or against their best interests and those of their patients, just so long will the fight for decency, honesty, and truth be a successful fight. The hope of the man whose profit is in dishonesty, is that discord may be brought about. With a profession divided into warring units, he can succeed; with a profession united in harmonious societies, all working for the common good and the public benefit, he can do nothing—he is forced to be honest or quit. Let no inuendo blind you to the actual facts and the truth in this whole matter. Every member of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association who has attended the sessions of the Association for any considerable number of years, knows that there never was a time when the Association was so harmonious as today. The cries of "dissension," of "boss rule," of strife and conflict, of lack of harmony, all come from those who would most desire to see such conditions and are trying to bring them about—but, fortunately, their efforts thus far have been without result. Where is there a state association that has a journal with any particular ax to grind? We have watched the course of the state journals very carefully, and so far as we have been able to observe, they one and all are striving to promote and increase harmony and to disseminate truth and honest information of value to the members of the societies. They are more than loyal to the American Medical Association, for they realize what it is doing. Their editors see somewhat of the nastiness of the nostrum business and are sometimes, inadvertently, entangled in it. Let not inspired articles in biased publications disturb your peace of mind.

No honest student of human nature, least of all no physician with a love for his fellow man, can deny the extreme value and importance of a careful and systematic scientific study of the profoundest of physiological forces.

A long list of names might be quoted of those who have devoted years to this work and have advanced our knowledge tremendously. Yet, owing to the very nature of the subject and the loathness of individuals to tell of their intimate personal lives, progress toward a fuller understanding of some phases of sexual psychology and pathology, is very slow. One of the most recent contributions to the subject is by J. Richardson Parke; "Human Sexuality." (See our Publications department in this issue.) There are legitimate treatises on this subject, and there are illegitimate contributions; to our mind the work in question belongs to the latter class; indeed, in some respects it is decidedly an offense to offer such a work to scientific men as a scientific treatise. Flippancy and vulgar comment, have no place in scientific discussion. But justice demands that the author be given credit for his strong plea for a more careful study of sexual inversion and kindred phenomena, by our judges and our lawyers. Is a victim of senile dementia to be harshly treated and condemned as a criminal for acts which he himself, were he sane, would abhor?

Has not the careful work of Lombroso, Krafft-Ebing, Ellis, and others, shown to any careful student that there may be and sometimes is, if the expression may be permitted, a normal abnormality; a normal inversion for the which the unfortunate individual is not to be held personally responsible? This is one of the subjects which our brothers of the legal profession might with great profit to humanity, study more carefully than they do. Aside from this modicum of commendation, the book in question is to be unhesitatingly condemned.

IRREGULARITIES IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS AND THE NECESSITY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF CREDENTIALS.

In the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, September 1st, 1906, appeared a letter from Dr. Dudley Tait, a member of the Board of Medical Examiners of this State, in which he called attention to the improper graduation of a man by the name of Painton, by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco. As the board, some time ago, decided to co-operate with other boards in investigating and reporting any irregularities found in medical schools, with a view to publication of any irregularities found, and as the case reported by Dr. Tait, in the journal and at the time indicated, resulted in correspondence questioning the accuracy of the facts therein, the STATE JOURNAL considered it advisable to thoroughly investigate this matter. We therefore present to you the facts in the case together with the evidence. The essential portion of the original communication in the pages of the *Journal A. M. A.* is as follows:

"May 17, 1906, H. R. Painton graduated from the Medical Department of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco, and was given a diploma duly signed by Dr. Winslow Anderson, president, and Dr. D. A. Hodghead, dean of said college. July 31, in the office of the State Board of Medical Examiners, H. R. Painton filed his application for a license. In his affidavit mention is made of four consecutive annual courses at the above mentioned school, 1902 to 1906. Inspection of the annual announcements of the College of Physicians and Surgeons showed H. R. Painton's name in four different numbers, thus corroborating the applicant's sworn statement.

Further research, however, developed the following facts: H. R. Painton taught in the grammar school of a neighboring county from 1902 to 1904—i. e., his term of service in the capacity of teacher coincided exactly with the first two years of his alleged attendance at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco. Confronted with the above evidence, H. R. Painton admitted having filed a false document, and gave his college attendance as only two courses. The value of H. R. Painton's faculty-bedecked di-